

# Neighborhood News

City of Bellevue

News for and about Bellevue Neighborhoods

August 2009

## Neighborhoods pile up food for families in need

Fried chicken and potato salad, ice cold lemonade and watermelon, kids shrieking and running through the sprinkler, dads flipping burgers, and moms visiting in the shade of floppy sunhats – that's a snapshot of a typical summertime block party.

This year, Bellevue neighborhoods added another element to the picture. Food drive banners and bins bulging with cans and packages were evidence of many neighborhoods' commitment to share resources with local families in need.

By the end of July, about two dozen neighborhoods had partnered with the City's Neighbor Link program to collect food and funds for Hopelink and other agencies that help families suffering from the recession.



***Mockingbird Hill celebrates the 4<sup>th</sup>*** – Rahn Joo Pucher and Marilyn McKenna are among those enjoying Mockingbird Hill's July 4 block party and food drive. Independence Day has had a special significance for the Pucher family since July 4, 2005, when Rahn Joo became an American citizen.

## Filing open for City Council position

Bellevue residents may file as candidates for the City Council seat that was left vacant with the death of Councilman Phil Noble last month. A three-day filing period, Aug. 19-21, has been established for prospective office-seekers. Candidates for the unexpired term will stand for election in the November General Election. The person with the highest number of votes will take office immediately and will serve through 2011. Three other Council positions will be elected this fall; filing has closed for those positions. Questions may be directed to King County Elections at 206-296-1565.

## Decision coming on regulation of large homes, vacant homes

The City Council is scheduled to decide Monday, Aug. 3, on the fate of proposals to impose additional development standards on large new homes built in existing neighborhoods. The new regulations would require such homes to have 7.5-foot setbacks on each side and roof pitches that reduce "shadowing" of adjacent houses. Also proposed for single family neighborhoods are:

- Further limitations on building height (maximum of 35 feet to roof peak, 40 feet for any single façade);
- New rules regarding placement of mechanical equipment associated with new or remodeled homes;
- Maintenance standards for vacant homes and abandoned building sites;
- Change in ending time for residential construction noise (from 10 p.m. to 8 p.m.);
- Increase in significant tree retention for new subdivisions (from 15 percent to 30 percent).

The amendments to the Bellevue City Code and Land Use Code are proposed by the Planning Commission as Phase 2 of the Neighborhood Character project. The City Council will consider the changes during its regular 8 p.m. meeting in the Council Chambers. For more information see the web site <http://www.bellevuewa.gov/neighborhood-character.htm> or contact Cheryl Kuhn, 425-452-4089.

## Neighborhoods honored for outstanding contributions

More than 250 residents joined City Council members and staff on the City Hall lawn for an evening of fun, food, and recognition on Thursday, July 23. The Neighbor Link event featured picnic dinners donated by Whole Foods Market Bellevue, rollicking music by the Two Scoops Combo, and a short ceremony to honor Bellevue neighborhoods, businesses, and faith organizations for outstanding community service.

Special recognition went to four organizations for their skill and creativity in developing Neighbor Link projects that respond effectively to community needs:

- **Surrey Downs Community Club** was recognized for a multi-phased project including the *Good Communications workshop*, the *11<sup>th</sup> Annual Garage Sale – with Food Drive & Bake Sale* benefiting Hopelink, and the *Welcome to Surry Downs Parade*, a unique way of welcoming new residents.
- **St. Luke's Lutheran Church** (Apple Valley/Norhtowne) was recognized for its *R-3 (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle)* yard sale and food/cash drive for Hopelink, and for *Wine & Jazz on the Patio*, a community benefit concert for Hopelink
- **Lake Hills Neighborhood Association** was applauded for its suite of projects: *Trash Off the Trails!*, the *Senior Safety Summit*, and *Teacher School Supply Drive*.
- **Bellevue Foursquare Church** (Woodridge) earned recognition for *Bridging Life Together*, an elaborate food drive, including contact with every Woodridge household and outreach to diverse community groups, followed up with a community celebration for food bank recipients and the surrounding neighborhood



**Nice evening for a picnic**, a concert (Two Scoops Combo above ) and neighborhood recognition. At left, Mayor Grant Degginger (in blue) thanks representatives of St. Luke's Lutheran Church for their Neighbor Link project.

## Major road closure allows completion of NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street bridge

Summer is the time for experiencing outdoor fun – and road construction. The I-405 project team is gearing up for a fall opening of the new NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street bridge over I-405. The new bridge will allow motorists to travel across I-405 on NE 10<sup>th</sup> Street, instead of using the more traveled NE Eighth Street interchange. The project also provides improved emergency access to the medical district.

As a part of the project, the team will install a new right hand turn lane on 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE. Installation will require closure of 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE from NE 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> streets from 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 1 to 6 a.m. Monday, Aug. 17. During the closure:

- Drivers will use a detour to 110<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE to either NE Eighth Street or NE 12<sup>th</sup> Street.
- Bicyclist will use a detour to 108<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE to either NE 2<sup>nd</sup> Street or NE 12 Street.

Driveways on 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue, between Northeast 10<sup>th</sup> and Northeast 12<sup>th</sup>, will be accessible via the intersection at 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast and Northeast 12<sup>th</sup> Street. Tenants and residents for properties on 112<sup>th</sup> Avenue between NE Eighth and NE 10<sup>th</sup> will have local access from NE Eighth Street. To learn more about this project and other I-405 improvements, please visit the project [Web site](#).

## August meetings

*(All meetings are in City Hall unless otherwise noted. Agendas are subject to change. You may confirm with Neighborhood Outreach the day before or day of the meeting. Or consult the city web pages listed below to download agendas.)*

**8/3 City Council** (6:00 study session, Council Conference Room) Budget update with focus on Capital Investment Program (CIP), East Link funding principles (8:00 regular session, Council Chambers) Parks and Open Space System Plan Update, Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center attendance and usage projection, Meydenbauer Bay Steering Committee recommendation, Consent Calendar, amendments to the Land Use Code and City Code relating to Phase II of the Neighborhood Livability Action Agenda

[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council\\_overview.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/council_overview.htm)

**8/4 Arts Commission** (4:00, 1E-109) Discussion of sculpture exhibition and project updates

[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts\\_comm.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/arts_comm.htm)

**8/4 East Bellevue Community Council** (6:30, Lake Hills Clubhouse, 15230 Lake Hills Blvd.) Agenda to be announced [http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC\\_Homepage.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/EBCC_Homepage.htm)

**8/6 Bellevue Network on Aging** (8:30 a.m., 1E-120) Human services needs assessment, committee goals discussion, committee reports, nominating committee/membership

[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network\\_on\\_aging.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/network_on_aging.htm)

**8/18 Human Services Commission** (6:30, 1E-120) Contingency plan for 2010 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding, recommendation for Severe Weather Shelter operation for 2009-2010

[http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human\\_serv\\_comm.htm](http://www.bellevuewa.gov/human_serv_comm.htm)

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Bellevue's Neighborhood Outreach Office offers a variety of programs and partnerships for neighborhood leaders and active residents. To learn more about citizen involvement opportunities and programs to enhance neighborhoods, call 452-6836.